DC
ALL IN
13+ TEEN
3
METAMORPHO
THE ELEMENT MAN
LIEBER
EWING
LIEBER
LOUGHRIDGE

ALL IN

ABSOLUTE FLASH

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Written by **JEFF LEMIRE** • Art and cover by **NICK ROBLES**

The **Absolute Universe** races forward starting in **MARCH**

Featuring:

METAMORPHO--GOLDFINGER!

SAPPHIRE--THE SPY WHO LOVED HIM!

URANIA--THE SPY WHO DUMPED HIM!

STAGGSY--THE BILLION-DOLLAR BRAIN!

JAVA--THE SPY WHO CAME IN FROM THE COLD!

AND VANDAL SAVAGE--ONE SPY TOO MANY?

METAMORPHO
The ELEMENT MAN

MAKE IT MAKE SENSE, READER!
RIGHT WHEN SAPPHIRE AND ME ARE SPLITSVILLE--ELEMENT GAL PICKS NOW TO BREAK UP THE BAND?
BELIEVE IT, MASON!
THE FREAK OF 1,001 CHANGES IS OUT--AND THE HUNK OF 1,001 MILLENNIA IS IN!
AND I SAY--WHY FIGHT IT?

AL EWING / STEVE LIEBER
WRITER / ARTIST

LEE LOUGHRIDGE / FERRAN DELGADO
COLORIST / LETTERER

SABRINA FUTCH / KATIE KUBERT
ASSOCIATE EDITOR / EDITOR

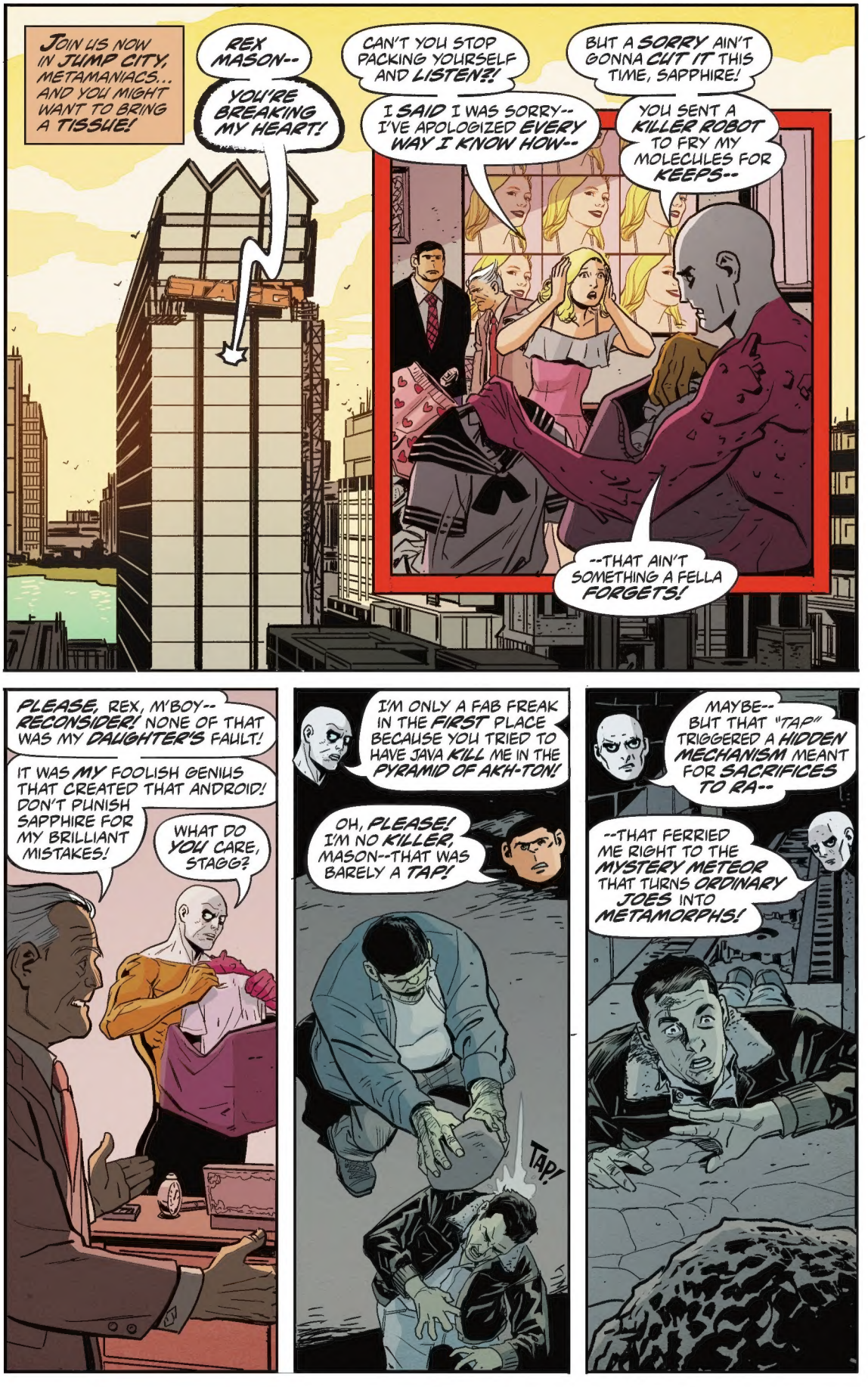
LIEBER & LOUGHRIDGE / DERRICK CHEW
COVER / VARIANT COVER

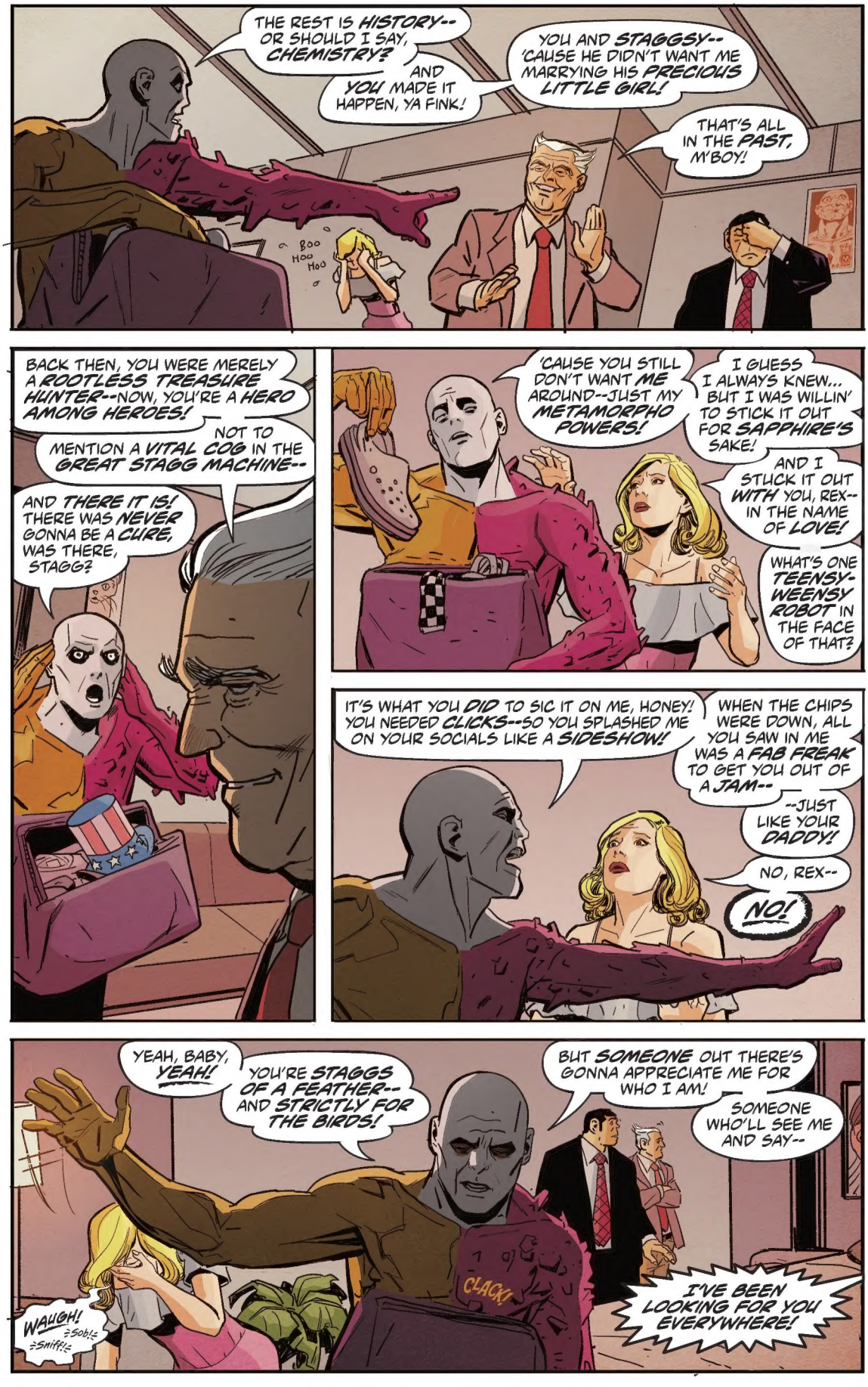
THEY SAID IT COULD **NEVER HAPPEN,** METAMANIACS! BUT IT'S REAL, **HIDEOUSLY REAL**--THE SKY HAS FALLEN, PIGS ARE IN FLIGHT, AND **REX MASON HAS SPLIT WITH SAPPHIRE STAGG!**

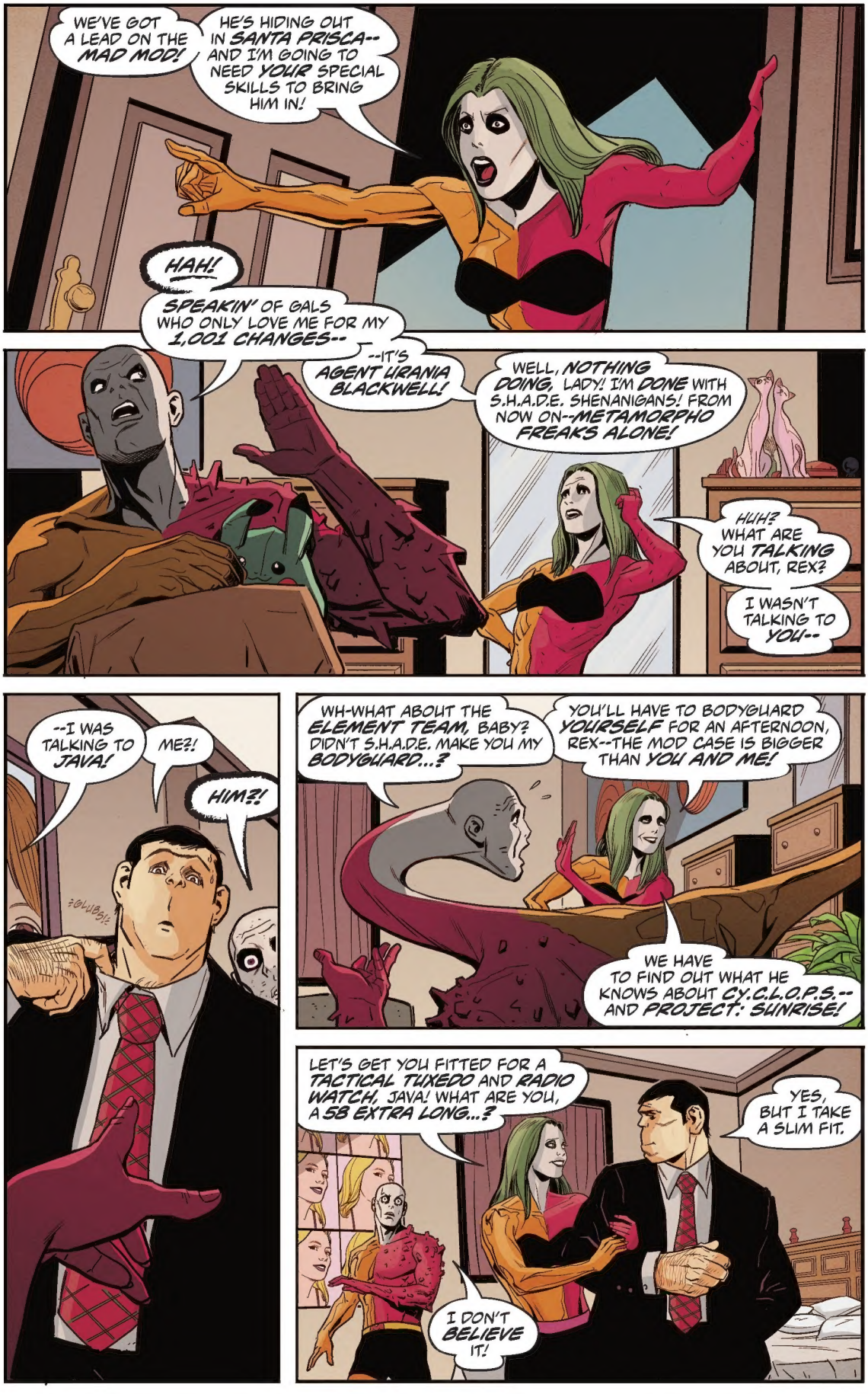
THERE'S JUST **ONE QUESTION**--NOW THAT METAMORPHO'S A **SWINGIN' SINGLE SUPERHERO,** WHY ISN'T THE AGENT WITH THE REAGENTS, **URANIA BLACKWELL,** MAKING **HER** MOVE?

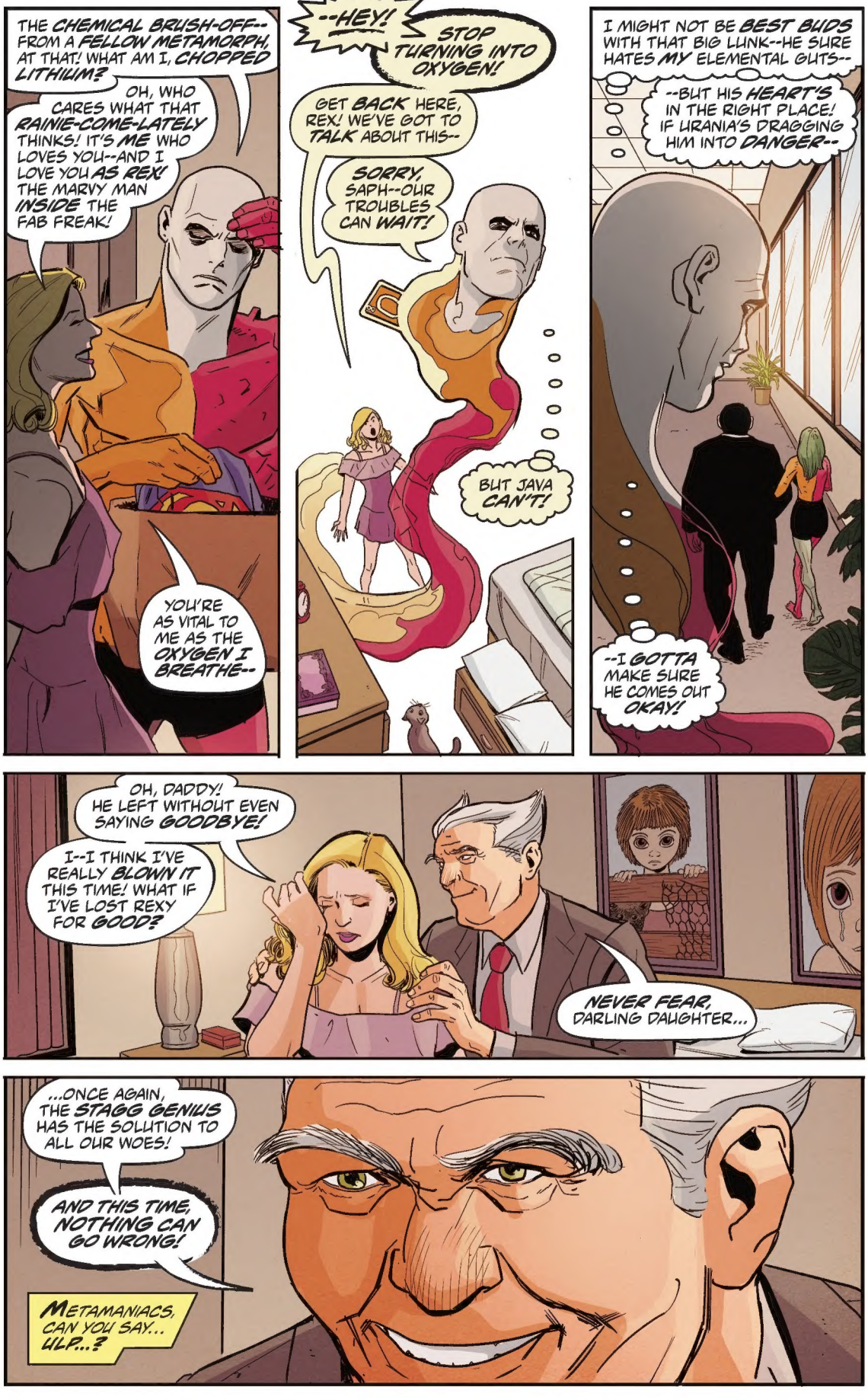
IT CAN ONLY BE BECAUSE THE **LADY FROM S.H.A.D.E.** IS BUSY WITH A **DEADLY SECRET MISSION**--ONE SHE CAN ONLY COMPLETE WITH THE HELP OF...

The Man from J.A.V.A.!


JOIN US NOW IN JUMP CITY, METAMANIACS... AND YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING A TISSUE!
REX MASON--
YOU'RE BREAKING MY HEART!
CAN'T YOU STOP PACKING YOURSELF AND LISTEN?!
I SAID I WAS SORRY-- I'VE APOLOGIZED EVERY WAY I KNOW HOW--
BUT A SORRY AIN'T GONNA CUT IT THIS TIME, SAPPHIRE!
YOU SENT A KILLER ROBOT TO FRY MY MOLECULES FOR KEEPS--
--THAT AIN'T SOMETHING A FELLA FORGETS!
PLEASE, REX, M'BOY-- RECONSIDER! NONE OF THAT WAS MY DAUGHTER'S FAULT!
IT WAS MY FOOLISH GENIUS THAT CREATED THAT ANDROID! DON'T PUNISH SAPPHIRE FOR MY BRILLIANT MISTAKES!
WHAT DO YOU CARE, STAGG?
I'M ONLY A FAB FREAK IN THE FIRST PLACE BECAUSE YOU TRIED TO HAVE JAVA KILL ME IN THE PYRAMID OF AKH-TON!
OH, PLEASE! I'M NO KILLER, MASON--THAT WAS BARELY A TAP!
TAP!
MAYBE-- BUT THAT "TAP" TRIGGERED A HIDDEN MECHANISM MEANT FOR SACRIFICES TO RA--
--THAT FERRIED ME RIGHT TO THE MYSTERY METEOR THAT TURNS ORDINARY JOES INTO METAMORPHS!

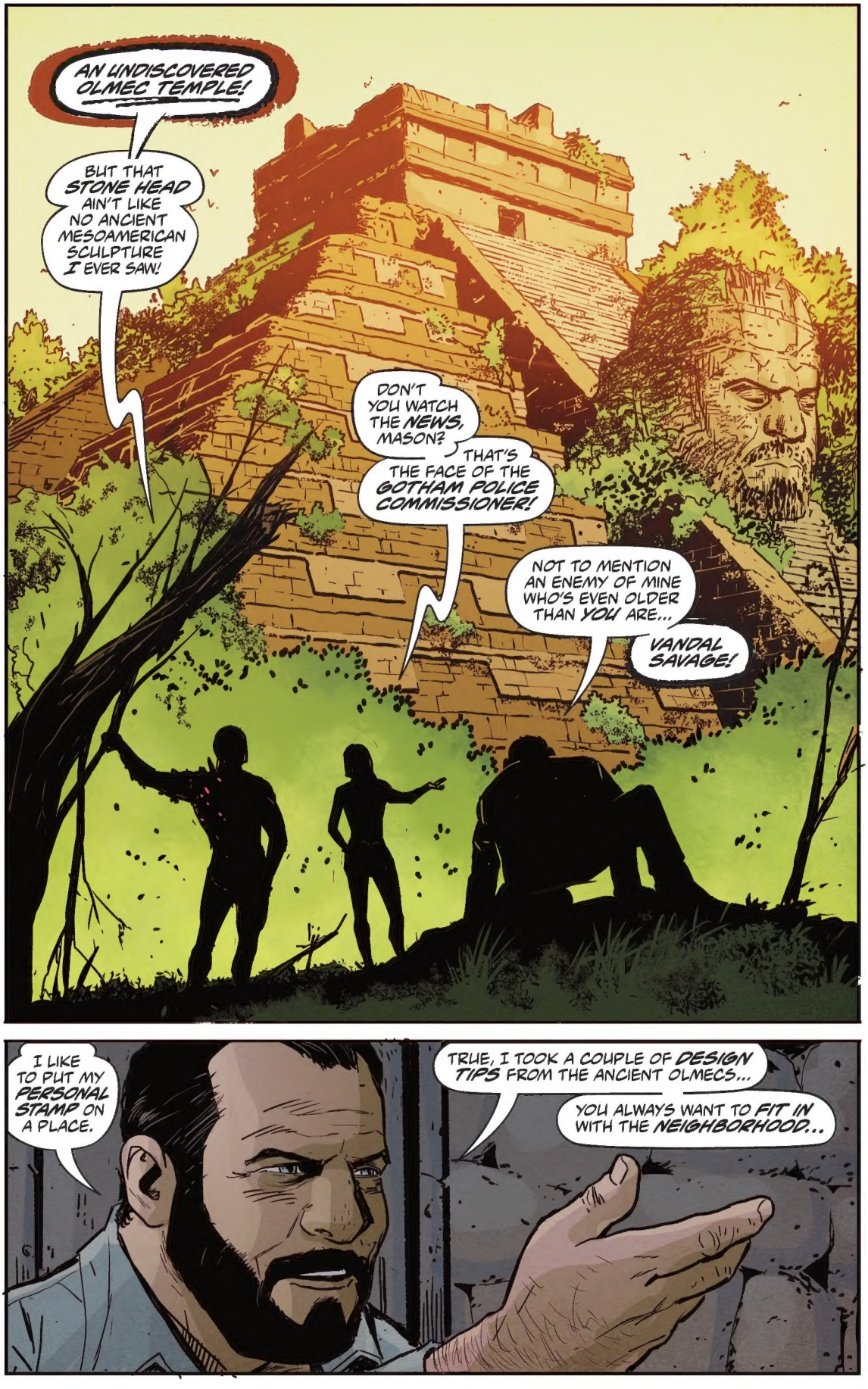

THE REST IS HISTORY--OR SHOULD I SAY, CHEMISTRY?
AND YOU MADE IT HAPPEN, YA FINK!
YOU AND STAGGSY--'CAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT ME MARRYING HIS PRECIOUS LITTLE GIRL!
THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST, M'BOY!
Boo Hoo Hoo
BACK THEN, YOU WERE MERELY A ROOTLESS TREASURE HUNTER--NOW, YOU'RE A HERO AMONG HEROES!
NOT TO MENTION A VITAL COG IN THE GREAT STAGG MACHINE--
AND THERE IT IS! THERE WAS NEVER GONNA BE A CURE, WAS THERE, STAGG?
'CAUSE YOU STILL DON'T WANT ME AROUND--JUST MY METAMORPHO POWERS!
I GUESS I ALWAYS KNEW... BUT I WAS WILLIN' TO STICK IT OUT FOR SAPPHIRE'S SAKE!
AND I STUCK IT OUT WITH YOU, REX--IN THE NAME OF LOVE!
WHAT'S ONE TEENSY-WEENSY ROBOT IN THE FACE OF THAT?
IT'S WHAT YOU DID TO SIC IT ON ME, HONEY! YOU NEEDED CLICKS--SO YOU SPLASHED ME ON YOUR SOCIALS LIKE A SIDESHOW!
WHEN THE CHIPS WERE DOWN, ALL YOU SAW IN ME WAS A FAB FREAK TO GET YOU OUT OF A JAM--
--JUST LIKE YOUR DADDY!
NO, REX--
NO!
YEAH, BABY, YEAH!
YOU'RE STAGGS OF A FEATHER--AND STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS!
BUT SOMEONE OUT THERE'S GONNA APPRECIATE ME FOR WHO I AM!
SOMEONE WHO'LL SEE ME AND SAY--
CLACK!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU EVERYWHERE!
WAUGH! =Sob!= =Sniff!=

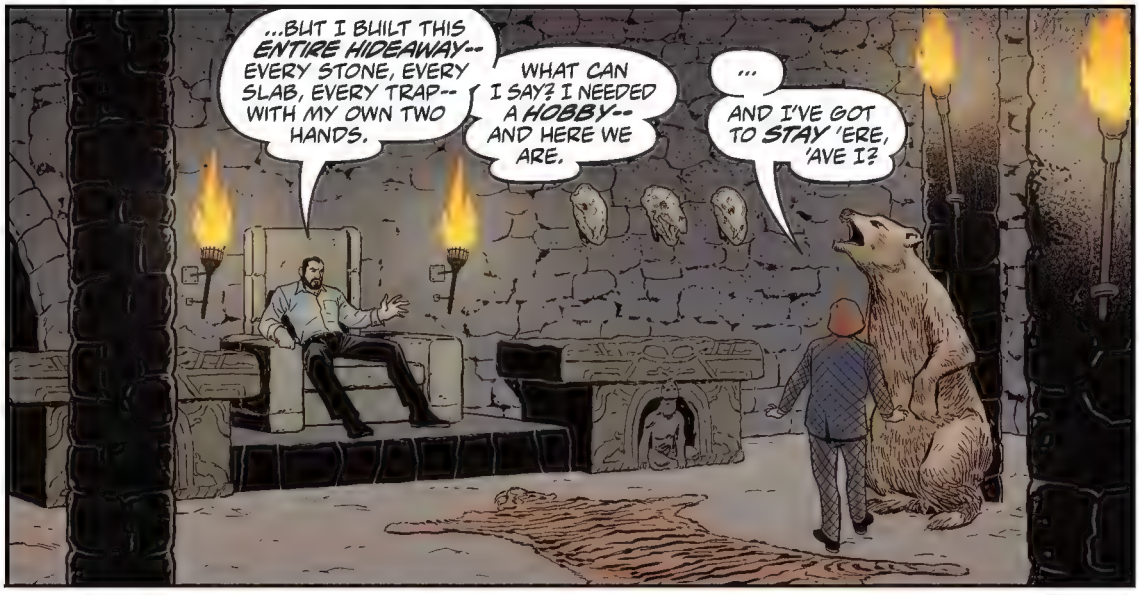

WE'VE GOT A LEAD ON THE MAD MOD!
HE'S HIDING OUT IN SANTA PRISCA-- AND I'M GOING TO NEED YOUR SPECIAL SKILLS TO BRING HIM IN!
HAH!
SPEAKIN' OF GALS WHO ONLY LOVE ME FOR MY 1,001 CHANGES--
--IT'S AGENT URANIA BLACKWELL!
WELL, NOTHING DOING, LADY! I'M DONE WITH S.H.A.D.E. SHENANIGANS! FROM NOW ON--METAMORPHO FREAKS ALONE!
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, REX?
I WASN'T TALKING TO YOU--
--I WAS TALKING TO JAVA!
ME?!
HIM?!
GLUBS!
WH-WHAT ABOUT THE ELEMENT TEAM, BABY? DIDN'T S.H.A.D.E. MAKE YOU MY BODYGUARD...?
YOU'LL HAVE TO BODYGUARD YOURSELF FOR AN AFTERNOON, REX--THE MOD CASE IS BIGGER THAN YOU AND ME!
WE HAVE TO FIND OUT WHAT HE KNOWS ABOUT CY.C.L.O.P.S.-- AND PROJECT: SUNRISE!
LET'S GET YOU FITTED FOR A TACTICAL TUXEDO AND RADIO WATCH, JAVA! WHAT ARE YOU, A 58 EXTRA LONG...?
YES, BUT I TAKE A SLIM FIT.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!


THE CHEMICAL BRUSH-OFF--FROM A FELLOW METAMORPH, AT THAT! WHAT AM I, CHOPPED LITHIUM?
OH, WHO CARES WHAT THAT RAINIE-COME-LATELY THINKS! IT'S ME WHO LOVES YOU--AND I LOVE YOU AS REX! THE MARVY MAN INSIDE THE FAB FREAK!
YOU'RE AS VITAL TO ME AS THE OXYGEN I BREATHE--
--HEY!
STOP TURNING INTO OXYGEN!
GET BACK HERE, REX! WE'VE GOT TO TALK ABOUT THIS--
SORRY, SAPH--OUR TROUBLES CAN WAIT!
BUT JAVA CAN'T!
I MIGHT NOT BE BEST BUDS WITH THAT BIG LUNK--HE SURE HATES MY ELEMENTAL GUTS--
--BUT HIS HEART'S IN THE RIGHT PLACE! IF URANIA'S DRAGGING HIM INTO DANGER--
--I GOTTA MAKE SURE HE COMES OUT OKAY!
OH, DADDY! HE LEFT WITHOUT EVEN SAYING GOODBYE!
I--I THINK I'VE REALLY BLOWN IT THIS TIME! WHAT IF I'VE LOST REXY FOR GOOD?
NEVER FEAR, DARLING DAUGHTER...
...ONCE AGAIN, THE STAGG GENIUS HAS THE SOLUTION TO ALL OUR WOES!
AND THIS TIME, NOTHING CAN GO WRONG!
METAMANIACS, CAN YOU SAY... HLP...?

A FEW HOURS LATER, A CLOAKED S.H.A.D.E. S-WINGER CUTS SOUNDLESSLY ACROSS THE SKIES ABOVE SANTA PRISCA--UNERRINGLY COMPU-GUIDED TOWARD THE MOD'S LAST KNOWN LOCATION!
ON MY SIGNAL, AGENT JAVA--
--JUMP!
COPY, AGENT BLACKWELL!
OPERATION: DEFROSTED THUNDER IS A GO...GO...
...GO!
DEPLOYING MY PARACHUTE IN THREE, TWO...
PARACHUTES FAIL, BUDDY!
WHA-HUH?!
WHY TRUST YOUR LIFE TO A PIECE OF CLOTH--
--WHEN A HELIUM BALLOON CAN LOWER YOU SAFELY TO EARTH?
MASON?!
REX! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
JUST TAKING CARE OF MY BEST PAL!
REX AND JAVA-- THE TWO MUSKETEERS!
WITH A WINK AND A GRIN THROUGH THICK AND THIN!
...
BUT I HATE YOU UTTERLY.

MOMENTS LATER, OUR TERRIFIC TRIO MAKE THEIR WAY THROUGH THE DENSE SANTA PRISCAN JUNGLE...
SO HOW'D YOU FIND WHERE THE MOD WAS HIDING, RAINIE?
S.H.A.D.E. HAS WAYS, MASON-- LIKE INDIGESTIBLE TRACKING DEVICES TO KEEP TABS ON CERTAIN PERSONS OF INTEREST!
FLASHBACK TO 24 HOURS EARLIER...
HEH HEH!
Property of Simon Stagg! Hands OFF!
WHEN WE STARTED GETTING SIGNALS FROM SANTA PRISCA, WE KNEW SOMETHING WAS UP!
AND KNOWING THE MOD, IT WAS EASY TO GUESS WHAT HAPPENED...
FLASHBACK TO 23 HOURS EARLIER...
HEH HEH!
Property of Simon Stagg! Hands OFF!
FROM THERE, WE ZEROED IN ON THE SIGNAL WITH A S.H.A.D.E. SUPER-SPY SATELLITE...
...AND SAW THIS!
HOLY HANNAH!


AN UNDISCOVERED OLMEC TEMPLE!
BUT THAT STONE HEAD AIN'T LIKE NO ANCIENT MESOAMERICAN SCULPTURE I EVER SAW!
DON'T YOU WATCH THE NEWS, MASON?
THAT'S THE FACE OF THE GOTHAM POLICE COMMISSIONER!
NOT TO MENTION AN ENEMY OF MINE WHO'S EVEN OLDER THAN YOU ARE...
VANDAL SAVAGE!
I LIKE TO PUT MY PERSONAL STAMP ON A PLACE.
TRUE, I TOOK A COUPLE OF DESIGN TIPS FROM THE ANCIENT OLMECS...
YOU ALWAYS WANT TO FIT IN WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD...


...BUT I BUILT THIS ENTIRE HIDEAWAY-- EVERY STONE, EVERY SLAB, EVERY TRAP-- WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS.
WHAT CAN I SAY? I NEEDED A HOBBY-- AND HERE WE ARE.
... AND I'VE GOT TO STAY 'ERE, 'AVE I?

YOU DON'T APPRECIATE MY GENEROUS HOSPITALITY, MOD? OR THE PERSONAL RISKS I'M TAKING TO HIDE YOU?
'COURSE I DO, ME OLD TUPPENCE! IT'S JUST I WAS EXPECTIN' SOMEFINK A LITTLE MORE HIP AND HEP--AS BEFITS ME STATUS!
I'M THE MAD MOD, DAD! IF I WAS THE NUTTY NEOLITHIC, I'D DRESS LIKE YOU-- NO OFFENSE, ME OLD MUCKER!

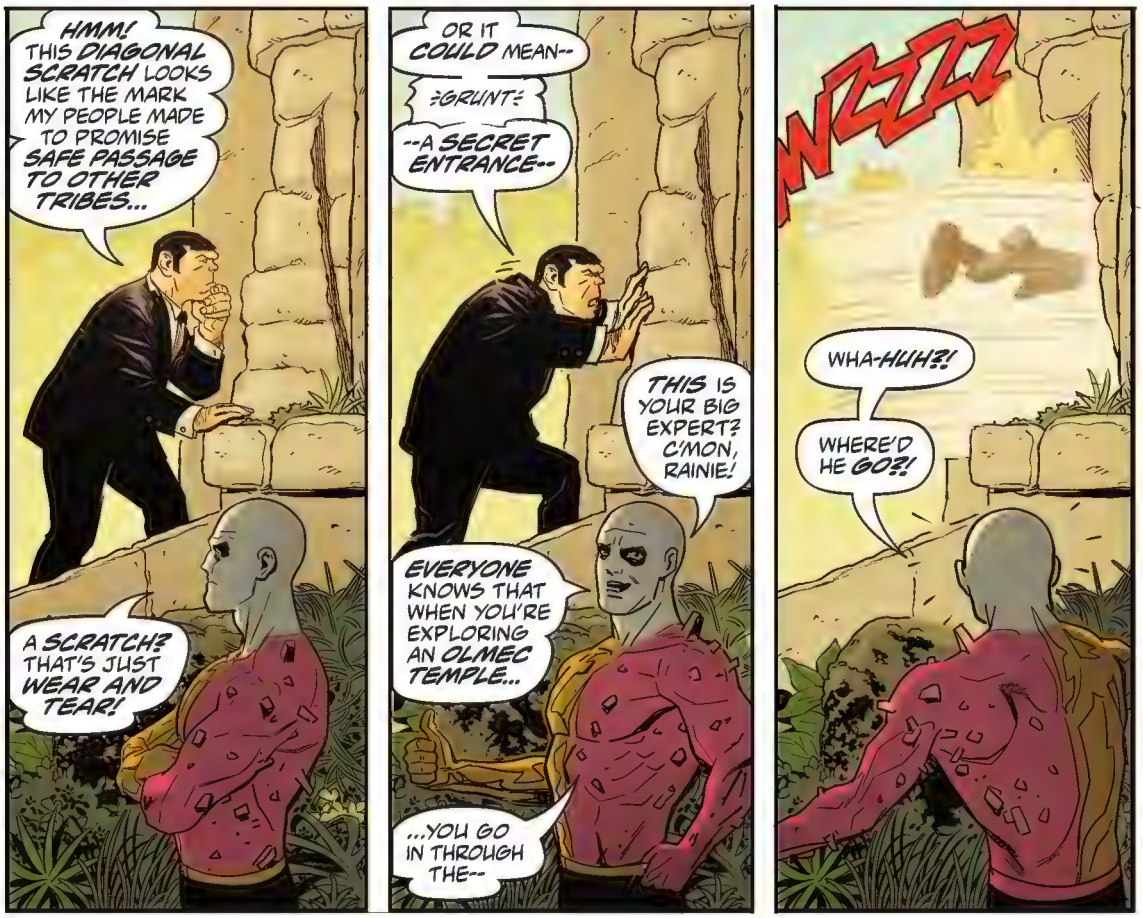
YOU AMUSE ME, MOD. YOUR OBSESSION WITH FLEETING FADS IS SUCH A CONTRAST TO MY OWN ETERNAL VIEWPOINT...
HAW!
I KNEW WHEN WE MET AT THAT CY.C.L.O.P.S. TEAM-BUILDING DAY THAT I'D MADE AN IMPRESSION!

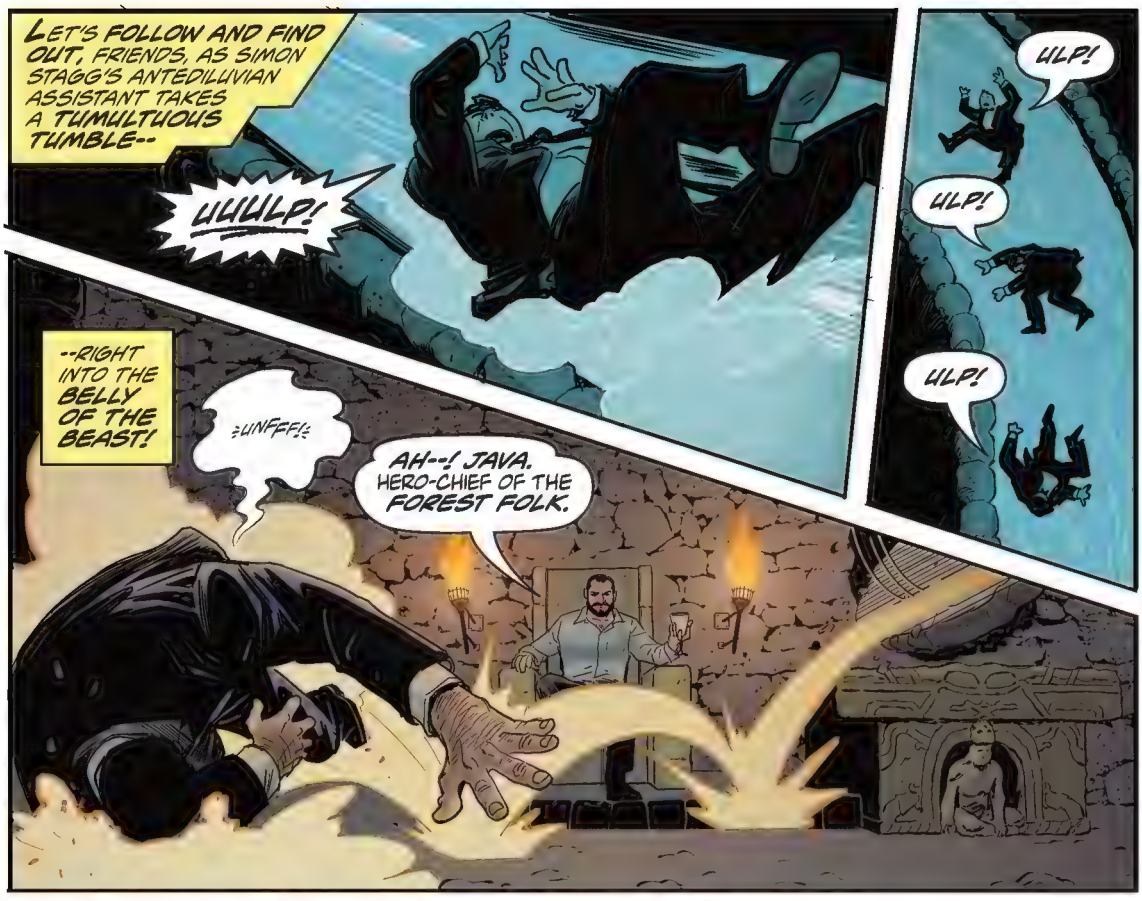
OH YES. SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN CURIOUS... ABOUT WHETHER YOUR MASTERY OF FASHION...

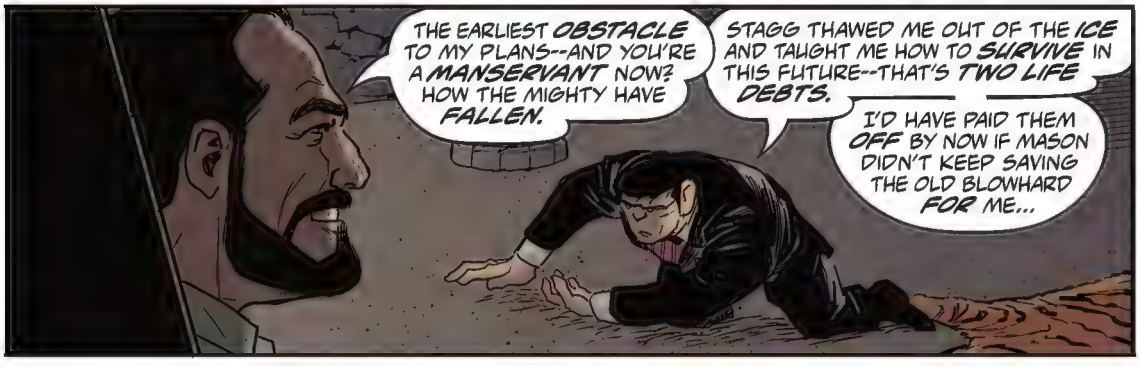
...MEANS YOU ALSO HAVE GOOD TASTE.
ULP!
YES! ASK NOT FOR WHOM THE ULP GULPS, MOD--IT GULPS FOR THEE!

MEANWHILE...
SO WHAT GIVES, RAINIE? I USED TO SEE ANCIENT TEMPLES LIKE THIS ALL THE TIME! WHY WOULDN'T YOU CALL ME IN?
BECAUSE THIS ONE HAS VANDAL SAVAGE'S FACE ON IT--SO IT'S NOT LIKE ANY ANCIENT TEMPLE YOU EVER SAW!
HE'S FROM A TIME BEFORE ALMOST ALL RECORDED HISTORY...

...BUT NOT BEFORE JAVA!
SO STAND BACK, MASON--AND LET A PROFESSIONAL WORK!
K-KRIK


HMM! THIS DIAGONAL SCRATCH LOOKS LIKE THE MARK MY PEOPLE MADE TO PROMISE SAFE PASSAGE TO OTHER TRIBES...
A SCRATCH? THAT'S JUST WEAR AND TEAR!
OR IT COULD MEAN--
:GRUNT:
--A SECRET ENTRANCE--
THIS IS YOUR BIG EXPERT? C'MON, RAINIE!
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT WHEN YOU'RE EXPLORING AN OLMEC TEMPLE...
...YOU GO IN THROUGH THE--
WHZZZ
WHA-HUH?!
WHERE'D HE GO?!


LET'S FOLLOW AND FIND OUT, FRIENDS, AS SIMON STAGG'S ANTEDILUVIAN ASSISTANT TAKES A TUMULTUOUS TUMBLE--
UUUULP!
ULP!
ULP!
ULP!
--RIGHT INTO THE BELLY OF THE BEAST!
=UNFFF!=
AH--! JAVA. HERO-CHIEF OF THE FOREST FOLK.


THE EARLIEST OBSTACLE TO MY PLANS--AND YOU'RE A MANSERVANT NOW? HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN.
STAGG THAWED ME OUT OF THE ICE AND TAUGHT ME HOW TO SURVIVE IN THIS FUTURE--THAT'S TWO LIFE DEBTS.
I'D HAVE PAID THEM OFF BY NOW IF MASON DIDN'T KEEP SAVING THE OLD BLOWHARD FOR ME...

NOT QUITE WHAT I MEANT...BUT WE'LL GET TO THAT. WE HAVE THINGS TO DISCUSS, YOU AND I.
THAT'S WHY I BUILT A WAY IN THAT YOU'D RECOGNIZE--JUST IN CASE YOU EVER DROPPED BY. YOU VANISHED, BUT I NEVER GAVE UP HOPE...
I ONCE SWORE AN OATH TO KILL YOU, SAVAGE.
NOW YOU EXPECT ME TO TALK...?

NO, MR. JAVA...
I EXPECT YOU TO DINE!
BEHOLD--DINNER À LA MOD!
=MMMPH!=

LOOKS LIKE THE DOOR'S *SEALED* AGAIN--SO TIGHT EVEN *MERCURY* CAN'T SLIP THROUGH!

DON'T LOOK SO *SMUG*, MASON...

AFTER THE *BIG EXPERT* YOU TOOK ON THIS GIG INSTEAD OF *ME* FELL INTO AN OBVIOUS *TRAP?* WHY *WOULD* I BE?

SNIFFLE

OBVIOUS? YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IT WAS *THERE* UNTIL HE FELL IN!

DETAILS, DETAILS!

LUCKY FOR YOU, *I'M* STILL AROUND TO *SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE!* WATCH AND LEARN, HONEY!

NOW, FROM HERE I SEE *THREE WAYS IN...*

...AND I SAY WE PICK THE *FRONT DOOR!*

NOW, WHERE TO FROM *HERE...?*

...BUT LET'S TRY THE *BACK DOOR!*

ALWAYS DO THE *UNEXPECTED!*

THIS IS GONNA BE A *BREEZE!*

FWOOSH!

YAAAH!

NO-- *THIS* WAY!

THAT WAS *UNEXPECTED,* ALL RIGHT!

THIS WAY?

YEAH, YEAH! WHICH WAY *OUT...?*

THIS WAY!

SPLOSH!!

=OWW!=

EEP!

MADE IT! THIS'LL BE A *BREEZE!*

STOMP!

OW!

OKAY! *LITTLE* TOUGHER THAN I THOUGHT!

HUFF HUFF

BUT NOW WE'RE THROUGH *EVERYTHING* THIS TEMPLE CAN THROW AT *US!*

UUUUUSSSS

...BUT I FIGURE WE GO IN THROUGH THIS *CRACK* IN THE WALL--

--AS CLOUDS OF GAS!

STICK WITH *ME,* BABE--

--THIS'LL BE A *BREEZE!*

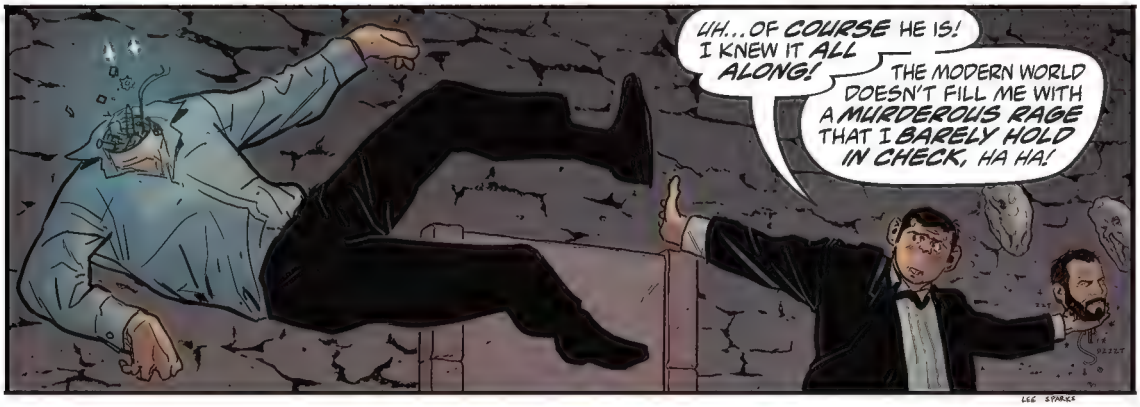
AND BELOW...
I DON'T EAT PEOPLE, SAVAGE--AND CERTAINLY NOT RAW.
I'M NOT LIKE YOU...
REALLY? YOU HAVE MORE IN COMMON WITH ME THAN THE SO-CALLED "HEROES" OF THIS TIME...A TIME THAT VALUES NOTHING, NOT EVEN THE PLANET ITSELF...
THIS FUTURE IS ALL I HAVE LEFT. I MAKE THE BEST OF IT.
AFTER STAGG'S LANGUAGE TREATMENTS, IT'S HARD TO EVEN THINK IN THE OLD TONGUE ANYWAY...
"THE RED PLAGUE RID YOU FOR LEARNING ME YOUR LANGUAGE!" SHAKESPEARE'S LAST PLAY--I CAUGHT IT AT THE GLOBE.
YOU MISSED SO MUCH, SLEEPING YOUR WAY THROUGH HUMAN HISTORY IN A BLOCK OF ICE.
SO MANY MEMORIES.
RETAINING MEMORIES IS DIFFICULT WHEN YOU LIVE AS LONG AS I HAVE...BUT THE ONES YOU KEEP, YOU KEEP IN STONE.
WHAT'S YOUR POINT?
YOU WORK FOR SIMON STAGG BECAUSE YOU OWE HIM YOUR LIFE. YOU HOPE TO CLEAR THAT DEBT BY SAVING HIS.
THAT'S INTERESTING, JAVA...
...BECAUSE I REMEMBER READING SIMON STAGG'S OBITUARY.

SO? HE'S BEEN BELIEVED DEAD MORE THAN ONCE...
THERE WAS A WHOLE PARAGRAPH...
...ABOUT HIS LONG-LOST SON, SEBASTIAN, DISRUPTING THE FUNERAL IN A ROBOT SUIT.
HAS THAT HAPPENED MORE THAN ONCE? HAS IT HAPPENED AT ALL...TO YOU?
OH, WAIT-- YOU WEREN'T THERE.
WHO WAS DOC DREAD, JAVA?
SOME MASTER CRIMINAL OR OTHER.
I CAN'T RECALL IF WE EVER FOUND OUT...
REALLY? BECAUSE AS I RECALL...IT WAS YOU.
YOU BETRAYED STAGG. BETRAYED YOUR PRINCIPLES-- THE LAW OF THE LIFE DEBT. WHY, YOU EVEN BETRAYED SAPPHIRE...
LIES!
I'M SAPPHIRE'S NUMBER ONE FAN!
PUFF!
I'VE GOT ALL HER ALBUMS-- EVEN HER ILL-CONSIDERED LAURIE ANDERSON PHASE! I'D NEVER BETRAY THE EMPRESS OF POP!
YE-ES... SOMEONE'S CLEARLY ALTERED YOUR TIMELINE, JAVA--
WINCE
LIKELY THE REST OF THE STAGG CLAN'S, TOO.
BUT WHO... AND WHY...?
I'VE HEARD ENOUGH OF YOUR DOUBLE-TALK, SAVAGE!
I SWORE THAT IF I EVER GOT MY HANDS ON YOU AGAIN, I'D END YOUR MISERABLE LIFE!
WELL, NOW I'M HERE-- AND NOTHING'S GOING TO STOP ME FROM--
LOOK OUT BELOW!
--ULP!

RELAX, JAVA, OL' PAL--WE'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE!
MASON...?
NO!
THIS IS MY MISSION! FOR ONCE, LET ME DO MY JOB--
AWK!
SORRY, BUD--THIS IS TOO IMPORTANT TO LEAVE TO AMATEURS!
LET'S SEE HOW A MILLION-YEAR-OLD MAN TAKES A PUNCH FROM SOME NICKEL KNUCKLES!
BACK TO SUPERHEROICS, ARE WE? A PITY--I WAS ENJOYING THE SPY STORY SO MUCH...
...THAT I BROUGHT MY OWN HIDDEN GADGETS!
ORB OF RA CUFFLINKS!
TOO SMALL TO HURT US AT LONG RANGE--
--BUT WE CAN'T GET CLOSE, EITHER!
BLOOBD
STALEMATE! BUT WHERE'D YOU GET AN ORB, SAVAGE...?
FROM CY.C.L.O.P.S., OF COURSE!
FLORP

IT'S RUN BY AN OLD FRIEND-- SO I WAS THE FIRST TO GET THE PROJECT: SUNRISE PITCH!
VERY SOON, PROJECT: SUNRISE WILL CREATE THE PERFECT WORLD!
AND MY JOB WILL BE TO RULE IT LIKE A GOD--
--IF YOU LIVE TO SEE IT!
GLHRKK!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN DISTRACTED, SAVAGE--OR LET ME GET BEHIND YOU!
JAVA-- NO!
WE NEED TO QUESTION HIM!
YOU AIN'T A KILLER, PAL! YOU SAID SO YOURSELF-- REMEMBER?
NOT ON THE STAGG PAYROLL, I'M NOT! BUT I TOLD YOU, MASON... THIS IS MY MISSION! SAVAGE IS MY ENEMY!
AND I'M GOING TO DEAL WITH HIM...
...MY WAY!
NO!
KRICK

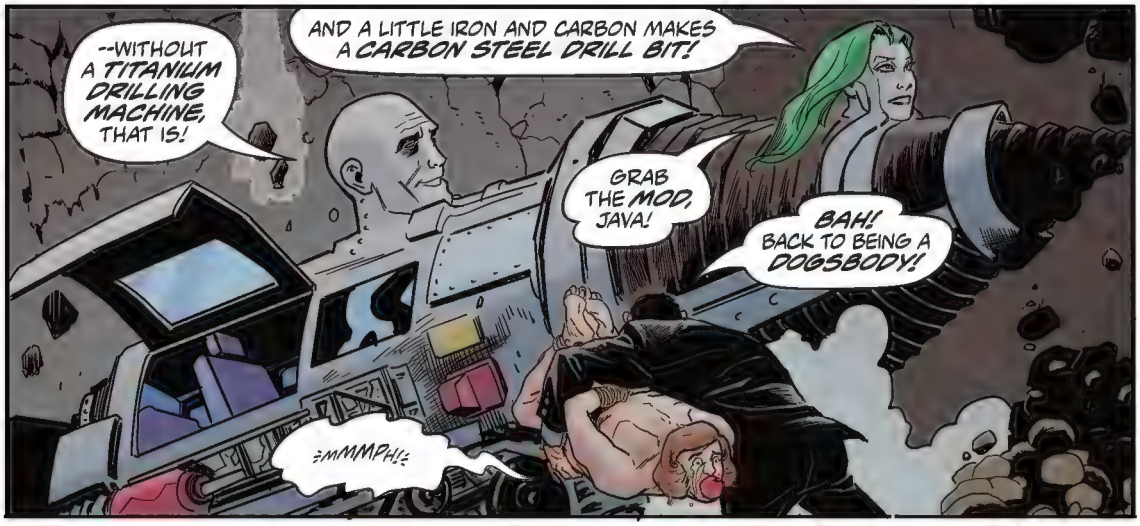
?!?
INCREDIBLE! VANDAL SAVAGE IS A--
--ROBOT!

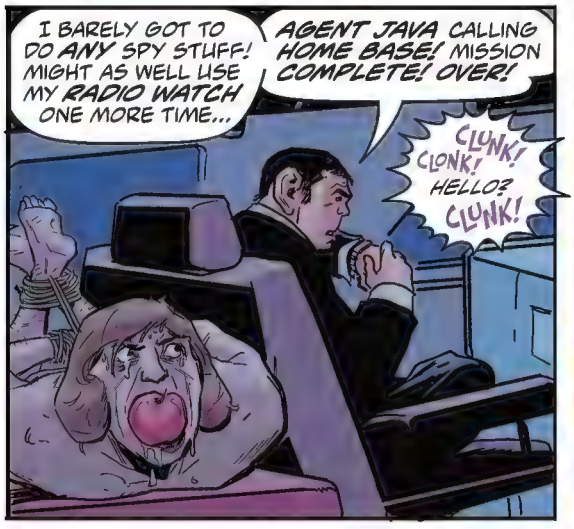

UH...OF COURSE HE IS! I KNEW IT ALL ALONG!
THE MODERN WORLD DOESN'T FILL ME WITH A MURDEROUS RAGE THAT I BARELY HOLD IN CHECK, HA HA!
LEE SPARKS

THE MODERN WORLD'S A WONDERFUL THING, ISN'T IT? THROUGH TECHNOLOGY, I CAN REMAIN IN GOTHAM WHILE DOING MY BUSINESS HERE...
...AND WHEN I'M DONE, I CAN DESTROY ALL EVIDENCE OF MY INVOLVEMENT!
DZZT
DZZT

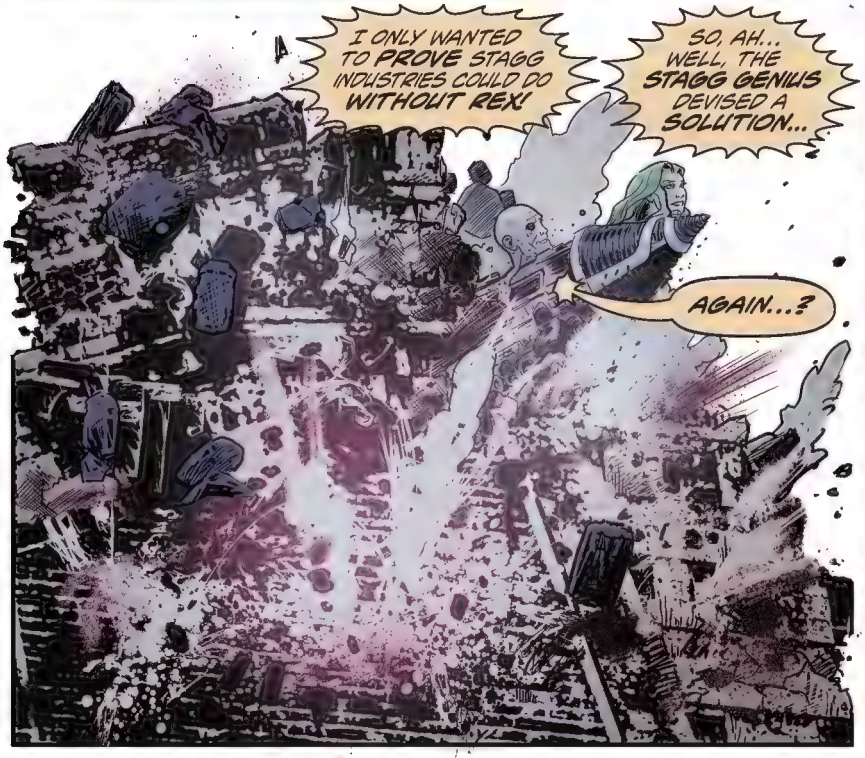
TICK, TICK, TICK!
HAHAHA!
EEP!

THAT'S A SUPPORT PILLAR, YOU DUMMY! NOW THIS WHOLE PLACE IS GONNA COME DOWN!
WE'RE GONNA BE BURIED ALIVE--
BOOM!


--WITHOUT A TITANIUM DRILLING MACHINE, THAT IS!
AND A LITTLE IRON AND CARBON MAKES A CARBON STEEL DRILL BIT!
GRAB THE MOD, JAVA!
BAH! BACK TO BEING A DOGSBODY!
:MMMPH!:


I BARELY GOT TO DO ANY SPY STUFF! MIGHT AS WELL USE MY RADIO WATCH ONE MORE TIME...
AGENT JAVA CALLING HOME BASE! MISSION COMPLETE! OVER!
CLUNK! CLONK! HELLO? CLUNK!

IT'S JAVA, I SAID! WHAT'S ALL THAT CLANKING, STAGG? I CAN HARDLY HEAR YOU!
THE OMINOUS GIANT-ROBOT SOUNDS? OH, NOTHING, NOTHING!
DADDY! TELL THEM WHAT YOU DID!
CLUNK CLANK


I ONLY WANTED TO PROVE STAGG INDUSTRIES COULD DO WITHOUT REX!
SO, AH... WELL, THE STAGG GENIUS DEVISED A SOLUTION...
AGAIN...?

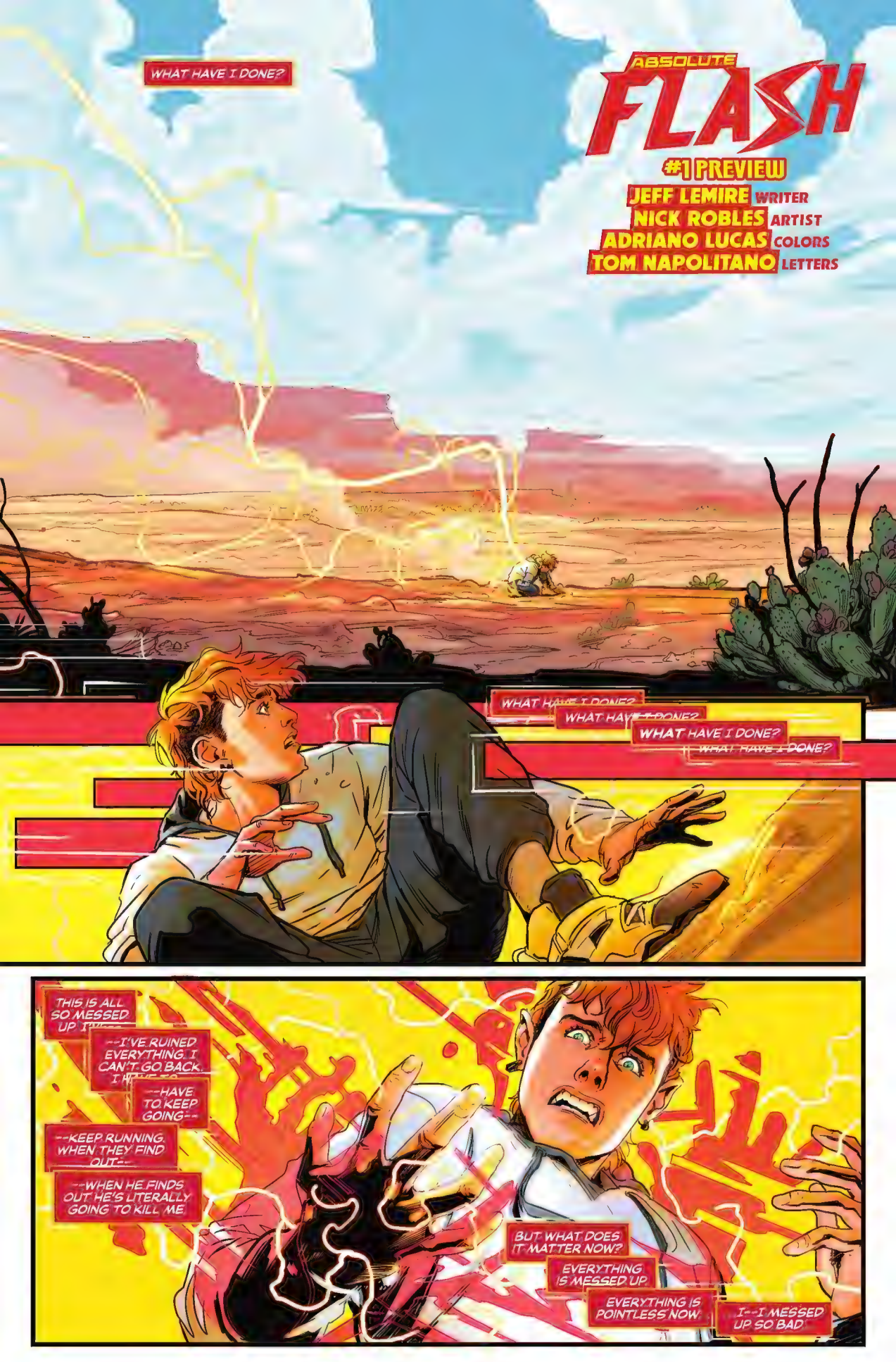
JUST STAY WHERE YOU ARE, STAGG! WE'RE ON OUR WAY!
OF COURSE, JAVA! HURRY HOME!
BUT, ER... JUST A MINOR POINT ABOUT STAYING WHERE WE ARE...

WE CAN'T LEAVE SIMON STAGG ALONE FOR A SECOND! BUT **WHAT** DID COMICDOM'S ULTIMATE FINK DO TO **CREATE** THIS KOOKY SITUATION? **HOW** DOES IT LEAD BACK TO THE MACHIAVELLIAN MASTER PLANS OF **Cy.C.L.O.P.S.?** **WHO** IS...**THE THUNDERER?** **WHY** DOES **PROJECT: SUNRISE** NEED **VANDAL SAVAGE** TO RULE THE WORLD?

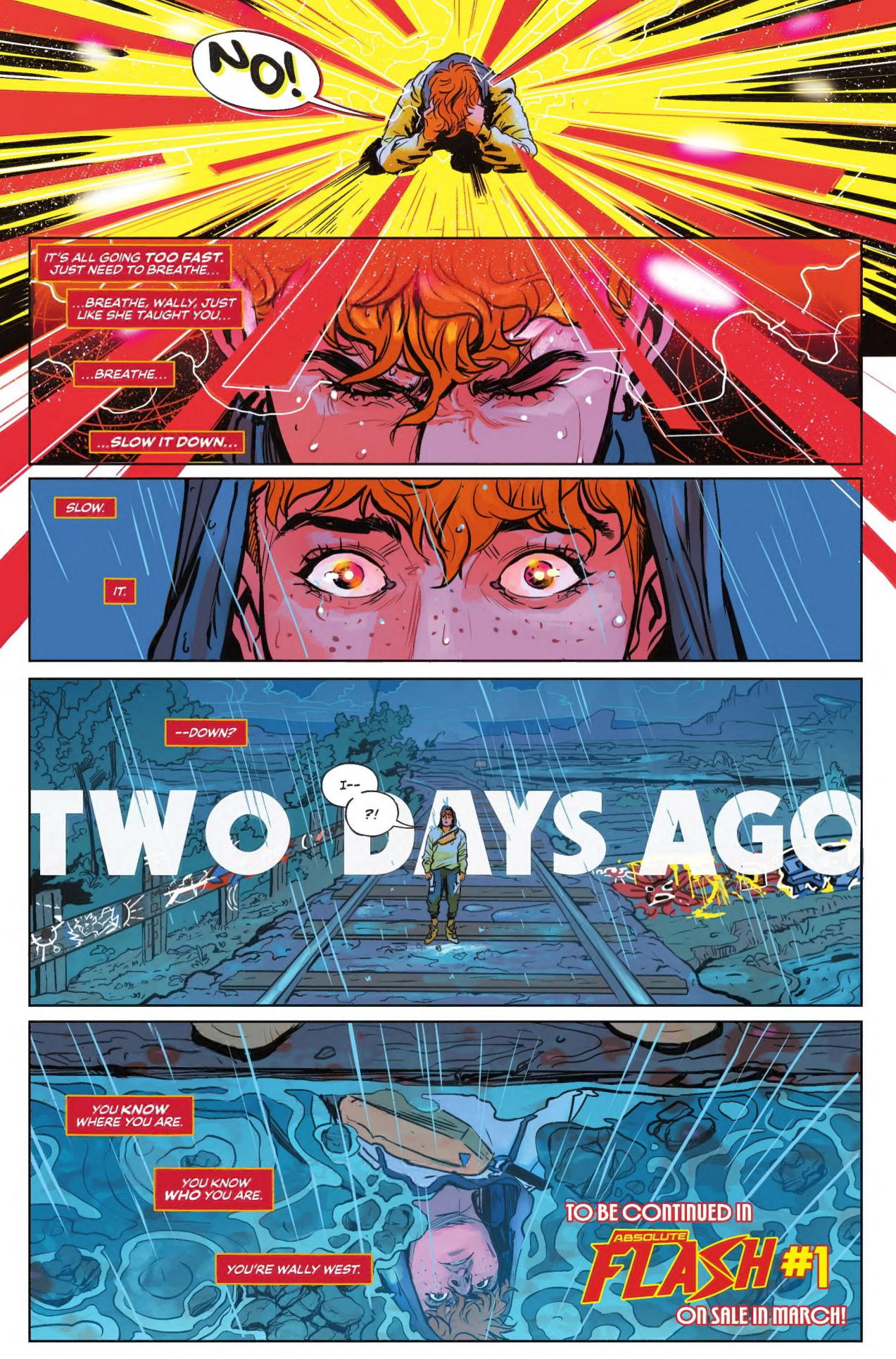
WHEN ARE WE GONNA CHECK BACK IN ON THE **RA-REALM?** AND **WHERE** THE HECK ARE WE GOING WITH ALL THIS?

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, METAMANIACS--CHECK BACK IN **NEXT MONTH** FOR YOUR **NEXT FREAKY FIX OF THE NEW AGE OF METAMORPHO...** AND THE TALE WE JUST **HAD** TO CALL...

THE HQ THAT WALKED LIKE A MAN!


WHAT HAVE I DONE?
ABSOLUTE
FLASH
#1 PREVIEW
JEFF LEMIRE WRITER
NICK ROBLES ARTIST
ADRIANO LUCAS COLORS
TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
THIS IS ALL SO MESSED UP. I--
--I'VE RUINED EVERYTHING. I CAN'T GO BACK. I--
--HAVE TO KEEP GOING--
--KEEP RUNNING WHEN THEY FIND OUT--
--WHEN HE FINDS OUT HE'S LITERALLY GOING TO KILL ME.
BUT WHAT DOES IT MATTER NOW?
EVERYTHING IS MESSED UP.
EVERYTHING IS POINTLESS NOW.
I--I MESSED UP SO BAD.

NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO


NO!
IT'S ALL GOING TOO FAST. JUST NEED TO BREATHE...
...BREATHE, WALLY, JUST LIKE SHE TAUGHT YOU...
...BREATHE...
...SLOW IT DOWN...
SLOW.
IT.
--DOWN?
I--
?!
TWO DAYS AGO
YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE.
YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
YOU'RE WALLY WEST.
TO BE CONTINUED IN
ABSOLUTE FLASH #1
ON SALE IN MARCH!

WHEN THE LIGHTS DIM, THE MAGIC BEGINS!

ZATANNA

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SUPERSTAR WRITER / ARTIST
JAMAL CAMPBELL
SETS THE STAGE FOR
ZATANNA'S SHOWSTOPPING
RETURN IN A NEW SIX ISSUE
LIMITED SERIES!

DC
ALL IN

THE TOUR BEGINS
FEBRUARY

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON ALL IN

ZATANNA

INTERVIEW WITH JAMAL CAMPBELL

Get ready to step into the spotlight with *Zatanna*! Superstar writer/artist Jamal Campbell dives into his upcoming six-issue limited series, where magic, mystery, and mayhem take center stage—along with exciting new characters and surprises.

You've described Zatanna's new series as "wonder, mystery, mischief, and fishnets," which feels like a perfect blend for her character. How did you approach balancing these elements?

From its inception, my goal for this book has been to create a story that explores Zatanna Zatara in her totality. From the magic and mundane, the highs and lows, the wonder and horror, this will be an exploration of everything that I consider core to her character.

Longtime fans may recognize characters, concepts and callbacks from past runs brought forward and woven into her modern iteration. At the same time, being cognizant of not alienating new readers, I've made sure that everything you need to know to understand this book is explained or showcased throughout the story. I hope this book becomes a gateway for them to experience Zatanna in other books and runs.

The Lady White is an intriguing new adversary. What inspired her creation, and how does she challenge Zatanna in ways we haven't seen before?

The Lady White was born from a desire to bolster Zatanna's rogues gallery with some fresh blood. She mirrors Zatanna in that they are both of the entertainment industry and exhibit a penchant for flair and the dramatic.

However, it's also an ongoing mystery of why the Lady White is so hell-bent on going after Zatanna. The two have never met. They have no history or distant connection as far as Zatanna can tell. Despite this, the Lady White is laser focused on causing Zatanna grief and suffering. Zatanna will need to break through her inability to grasp the truth behind this contradiction as well as the identity of the cursed sword that the Lady White has brought upon her.

Zatanna has deep ties to so many iconic characters across DC. Can fans expect any exciting connections to the larger DC Universe?

Given Zatanna's notable relationship with a number of DC's most distinct characters, such as Batman, Wonder Woman, and Constantine to name a few, I'd be remiss not to acknowledge those connections. These relationships and how Zatanna feels about them is one of the direct drivers of her actions and decisions throughout the book.

At the same time, this is Zatanna's book and I did not want any of those iconic characters to overshadow her time in the spotlight. Instead, I've taken the opportunity to foreground a few of her lesser acknowledged relationships. Blue Devil, specifically, takes a prominent role and is an important piece of the story.

DON'T MISS ZATANNA, ON SALE MONTHLY!

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